

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., NOVEMBER 22, 1935.

The sixth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1936 was held in its office in the Navy Department Building on November 22, 1935. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Clarke,
Mr. Swartwout,
Mr. Howells,
Mr. Savage,
Mr. Coolidge,
also H. P. Caemmerer,

Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a. m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: The Minutes of the Meetings of the Commission, held October 3, 21, and 28, 1935 were approved.

2. DESIGN FOR APARTMENT BUILDING AT 16TH STREET AND DISTRICT LINE:

Mr. Louis Justement, architect, presented a design for a series of apartment buildings to face 16th Street at the District Line, with letter as follows:

November 21, 1935.

The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

When the Zoning Commission of Montgomery County granted a change in zoning from Residential "A" to Residential "B" area for the property bounded by Sixteenth Street, East-West Highway and the Colesville Pike, it requested that the owners of the property secure from the Commission of Fine Arts, approval of the design of the buildings which it is proposed to erect on the Sixteenth Street frontage.

In accordance with this request, I am submitting for your consideration a plot plan of the proposed development and elevation of all of the buildings on the Sixteenth Street frontage.

Hoping that the proposed design will meet with the approval of the Commission, I am

Yours very respectfully,
(Signed) Louis Justement.

It was noted that buildings were to be in general two stories or about 30 feet high. The end buildings are to be of sand-finished colonial brick and the center buildings of brick painted white. The average cost per room is to be \$14. Mr. Justement said Mr. William Blair of New York City is building these apartments and wants them to be in good taste. Mr. Justement is using brick in several different colors, running from salmon to red. Mr. Coolidge recommended four shades mixed, stating that mixed colors will be better since the group of buildings is so long. Mr. Moore said that more of this sort of apartment building is needed for Washington.

The Commission called attention to the fact that by legislation of Congress this location at the north entrance to Washington has been called the Blair Portal and for this reason the National Capital Park and Planning Commission should be informed of the project since also it is contemplated to introduce additional legislation to provide for a Blair Memorial.

The architect members of the Commission inspected the drawings and were pleased with the design and commended the architect. The Commission approved the design with the recommendation that the scale of the doors in the recessed group be reduced. (Exhibit A)

3. FEDERAL HOUSING PROJECT IN NORTHEAST WASHINGTON: Mr. E. B. Johnson, Chief of the Initiation Branch of the Federal Housing Division of the Interior Department and Mr. George E. Fischer and Mr. A. R. Waterval of that office submitted a model by Robinson, Porter and Williams, architects of Washington, for a housing project at Langston Terrace, Benning Road and 24th Street, N. E. This project will take in about 15 acres and will provide residences for 320 colored families. The sum of \$1,600,000 is to be spent on the project. It

is reported that the scheme has the approval of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission as to location and lay-out. The structures will be mostly apartment houses with some row houses and will be from two to four stories high. The cost is estimated at 5 to 7 dollars a room. The construction throughout will be fire-proof.

The architect members of the Commission inspected the design as shown by the model and did not like it. Mr. Swartwout emphasized the fact that the buildings should be well designed and appropriate for Washington. Even if the question of economy is involved, in the case of buildings erected in Washington and especially when the Government is doing the building, they should be well designed. Mr. Moore emphasized the fact that buildings can be well designed and not cost any more. If the buildings were proposed for cities in the states that might be another matter but not so with regard to Washington.

The feeling was that these buildings should have a distinct colonial flavor. Mr. Moore said that Washington has fire and police stations and schools which have a decided colonial character and they do not cost any more than if built in some other style. Mr. Swartwout said that when something of this sort is built it points the way to others to do something equally as good. If the Government builds something that is not good others will use that as a basis of an excuse for their cheap and unsightly buildings.

The Commission did not like the design of the buildings as indicated in the model and advised that the elevation should be re-studied. Mr. Johnson said he would be glad to do this and he would see to it that well designed buildings are erected provided the cost will not be materially increased. Mr. Johnson agreed to submit sketches to the Commission. Mr. Swartwout said that these

sketches need not be drawn out in detail. It was suggested that Mr. Johnson confer with Mr. Nathan C. Wyeth, Municipal Architect, who has designed a number of colonial buildings for the District of Columbia. A report was sent to Mr. Johnson (Exhibit.B). The Commission did commend the lay-out of the buildings on the ground.

4. HOME OWNERS LOAN CORPORATION BUILDING EXTENSION: A design had been received from the Supervising Architect's office for an extension to the Home Owners Loan Corporation Building. This had been submitted by the Secretary to Mr. Swartwout who advised that in connection with the design the Supervising Architect should submit a perspective showing the view of the extension as it would be seen in relation to the existing building from Union Station Plaza.

Accordingly the Supervising Architect's office submitted additional drawings. A revised design also was submitted showing a low pent-house along the roof of the building. This is to take the place of the very high and unsightly pent-house that is now on the old building. The building is 107 feet high to the cornice line with an additional 30-foot set-back and pent-house. According to the revised design the building will be 127 feet high and will give a uniform cornice line as seen from Union Station Plaza. The extension is to be built of limestone, the same as the old building.

The design was considered at a joint meeting with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in the afternoon. Both Commissions approved the revised design. (Exhibit C; see also C-1)

5. STORE BUILDING AND WAREHOUSE FOR RESERVATION D: Under date of October 22, 1935, the following letter was received from Mr. C. L. Harding, architect, with a revised design for a store building and warehouse to be built on Reservation D south of the Mall near the Smithsonian Institution:

October 22, 1935.

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary,
Fine Arts Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am sending you herewith, blue prints and a pencil sketch perspective of the store building for 111 Fourth Street, Southwest, Martin Wiegand, owner.

These are to replace the blue prints which you have, wherein the building is designated as a warehouse.

I trust that the consideration of these drawings will be taken at the November meeting of the Commission, and a decision rendered.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) C. L. Harding.

The perspective indicated that the architect had not materially changed the design of the building from the one heretofore submitted. The Commission on consideration decided that a building of this character would not be appropriate for a location along the Mall.

The Secretary called attention to a letter received from the Treasury Department advising that it is proposed to purchase the square in question if necessary. (Exhibit D)

The design was considered at the joint meeting with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Both commissions agreed that a building of this character would be inappropriate near the Mall and disapproved its erection on Reservation D.

6. STORE BUILDING AT CONNECTICUT AVENUE AND CALVERT STREET: Mr. Jarrett White, architect, submitted a design for a store building to provide for several shops to take the place of a residence at Calvert Street and Connecticut Avenue,

N. W. It is to be a one-story building of limestone with a considerable portion of the facade used for show-windows. The Commission approved the design with the suggestion that the main door be simplified and also that the architect be given control of the advertising signs to be placed on the building. (Exhibit E)

7. GROVER CLEVELAND MEMORIAL: Representatives of the Grover Cleveland Memorial Committee, consisting of Hon. Emanuel Celler, House of Representatives, Mr. George Henry Payne, Mr. Cleveland F. Bacon, and Mr. George P. Le Brun, Secretary, met with the Commission of Fine Arts to confer as to the pending project they have in hand to erect a suitable memorial to Grover Cleveland in the National Capital. Mr. Victor Frisch, sculptor, had submitted a preliminary design for the memorial and at the meeting he submitted a model of it.

Congressman Celler said that the purpose of the model was just to give an idea and that the committee is not bound in any way to accept the design. Representative Celler then called upon Mr. Le Brun to explain the project to the Commission. Mr. Le Brun said that a widespread interest has developed ever since Congressman Celler inaugurated the movement. Men of great prominence have indicated a willingness to serve on the committee, as John W. Davis, John Bassett Moore, and Commissioner Payne. Mr. Le Brun said he corresponded with the Governors of the States and 28 Governors had written enthusiastic replies, saying they would appoint a committee to raise funds. Every State was given a quota and thus far 14 States have said they would raise a total of \$72,000. A number of cities in New York State are contributing sums from \$2,500 to \$10,000. New York State has not yet pledged but a considerable amount is expected. Mr. Le Brun said that, of course, the plans would have to be slightly conditioned on the sum raised. He said that Mr. Frisch had suggested \$250,000 as

the cost of the memorial, on which sum the appeal to the Governors was based.

The Act of Congress authorizing the erection of the memorial, Congressman Celler said, provides that the Government give \$10,000 for the pedestal. The Act was approved June 26, 1935, and reads as follows:

PUBLIC RESOLUTION--NO. 35--74TH CONGRESS

H. J. Res. 147

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection of a monument to Grover Cleveland in Washington, District of Columbia

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That authority is hereby granted to any association organized within two years from the date of the approval of this resolution for that purpose, to erect a statue of Grover Cleveland, President of the United States, 1885 to 1889 and 1893 to 1897, in the city of Washington at such place as may be designated by the Fine Arts Commission, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on the Library, the model of the statue so to be erected and the pedestal thereof to be first approved by the said Commission and by the Joint Committee on the Library, the same to be presented by such association to the people of the United States.

That for the preparation of the site and the erection of a pedestal upon which to place the said statue, under the direction of the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, the sum of \$10,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, June 26, 1935.

Mr. Le Brun said that it was generally felt at an executive meeting of the Grover Cleveland Memorial Committee that a competition should be held and that they should go to the public with a definite idea in mind as to how much they wish to raise. Mr. Payne said that the feeling of the committee is that they want the sanction of the Commission of Fine Arts before enlisting the interest of prominent people. Mr. Payne asked whether it would be necessary to have a competition and Mr. Moore called upon Mr. Swartwout to say something about competitions.

Mr. Swartwout said that he has been chairman of the Committee on Competitions of the American Institute of Architects for many years. If a competition is well handled there is publicity attached to it and that aids in getting money. Properly done a competition means something. The sculptor competitors should include an architect to collaborate and in this case the rules of competition of the American Institute of Architects and those of the National Sculpture Society would obtain. Mr. Le Brun wanted to know if it would be possible for the committee to select a number of artists. The Commission advised that it would be well to have a professional adviser to conduct the competition as competitions easily get out of control. Mr. Moore informed Mr. Le Brun that the Commission of Fine Arts would suggest a number of people from which he could select an adviser.

It was also emphasized that the selection of a jury is a very important matter. Mr. Swartwout said that unless the jury is a good one the best sculptors and architects will not enter the competition. Mr. Moore again said the Commission would suggest a number of people who would be good to serve on the jury.

The Commission felt that \$250,000 was a good sum to raise so as to provide a proper memorial in the National Capital but that the design should be secured by competition. It was understood, of course, that any design selected would also include a suitable landscape plan. Attention was called to memorials to Presidents of the United States in the National Capital as Washington, Jackson, Buchanan, Lincoln, Grant and Garfield.

There was some discussion as to a location. Mr. Le Brun read a letter from Newton D. Baker, former Secretary of War, the gist of it being that a

monument somewhere on Constitution Avenue would be fine. Mr. Moore said that the selection of a site is going to be very difficult but when selected it should relate Cleveland historically to the National Capital and that the Commission of Fine Arts would decide that in conjunction with the Grover Cleveland Memorial Committee.

Mr. Le Brun wanted to know if it would be possible for the Grover Cleveland Memorial to be completed in time for the 100th anniversary of Cleveland's birth on March 18, 1937. He was informed that that would be only enough time for the sculptor to complete his model but that the event could be commemorated by a cornerstone laying.

The committee requested the Commission of Fine Arts to suggest the name of a professional adviser, the names of artists to serve on the jury and a group who could be called upon to enter the competition. Also the Commission was asked to advise as to the probable expense involved to conduct the competition. Mr. Moore stated in behalf of the Commission that the Commission would be glad to do this but that at least two or three months would be needed.

Members of the committee asked if the Commission would not inspect the model. The model showed a statue of Grover Cleveland under an arch with space for landscape treatment around the arch. The Commission did not consider the model appropriate for a memorial to Grover Cleveland. The Commission had seen a print of the model here in June 1935, at which time a similar criticism was made regarding it.

A report was sent to Mr. Le Brun. (Exhibit F)

(On November 25, 1935, the following telegram was received from Mr. Le Brun:

"On returning home and reporting to my associates on the committee the action taken in Washington at our meeting of November 22nd with respect to the Grover Cleveland Memorial I must ask you to suspend any action of yours respecting that meeting until the executive committee of the Grover Cleveland Memorial Fund has an opportunity to meet and consider my report."

George P. Le Brun, Secretary,
The Grover Cleveland Memorial Committee, Inc.,
15 Gramercy Park, New York City.

(Mr. Moore replied to this as follows:

November 26, 1935.

Hon. George P. Le Brun, Secretary,
Grover Cleveland Memorial Committee,
15 Gramercy Park, New York, N. Y.

Replying to your telegram Commission of Fine Arts will comply with your request to suspend action.

Charles Moore,
Chairman.

See also letter from Congressman Celler and reply from Commission.)

(Exhibit F-1 and F-2)

8. GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK BRIDGE: Mr. Malcolm Kirkpatrick submitted in behalf of the National Park Service a design for a bridge in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, for site No. 8. The preliminary plans had been sent to Mr. Clarke, who had made certain suggestions concerning them. Mr. Kirkpatrick submitted scheme No. 1 for a stone-faced concrete structure, which upon the recommendation of Mr. Clarke was approved by the Commission.

9. EAST POTOMAC PARK SWIMMING POOL: Mr. Kirkpatrick submitted in behalf of the National Park Service a design for a swimming pool, drawing NCP 60-81, Sheet 1, to be erected adjacent to the field house in East Potomac Park. The plan also calls for landscape treatment of the grounds adjacent to the field house and swimming pool. The Commission inspected the plan and approved it.

10. GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY BRIDGES:

a. Boundary Channel Bridge: Mr. Kirkpatrick submitted in behalf of the National Park Service a plan for a Boundary Channel Bridge, NCP 1608, to connect with the George Washington Memorial Parkway along the Virginia shore near the north end of Columbia Island. Mr. Clarke made a number of suggestions as to the preliminary design, which will be embodied in the final drawing.

b. Boulevard Overpass Bridge: Mr. Kirkpatrick submitted a plan, NCP 1609, for a boulevard overpass bridge to be erected over the parkway and the railroad in the vicinity of Rosslyn. Mr. Clarke made a number of suggestions as to the preliminary design, which will be embodied in the final drawing. Mr. Kirkpatrick stated as to these designs:

"The architectural design for these two bridges has been generally established by the existing structures on the Parkway. Both bridges have been checked for clearance, water area, etc., and except for a few minor revisions are ready for the contract drawing stage. The Lee Boulevard grading is underway and it is highly desirable that plans for these structures be considered as soon as possible."

11. TURKEY THICKET PLAYGROUND: Mr. Kirkpatrick submitted in behalf of the National Park Service a plan for Turkey Thicket Playground, NCP 1854-A. The Commission inspected the plan and upon the recommendation of Mr. Clarke it was approved with the understanding that a detailed planting, grading and architectural plan will be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for final approval. This playground is located at 10th and Shepherd Streets in Brookland in northeast Washington.

12. MEMORIAL TABLET IN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR: On November 1, 1935, a letter was received from the Director of the National Park Service regarding a memorial

tablet to be placed in the main entrance of the Department of Labor Building in honor of the officers of the Immigration-Naturalization Service who lost their lives in the performance of their official duties. The Commission took the design under consideration.

13. THOMAS JEFFERSON MEMORIAL: At the joint meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission attention was called to the proposed Thomas Jefferson Memorial. It was suggested that both Commissions take the question of location into consideration and that a joint meeting be held the latter part of January for further consideration of the project.

14. NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART: At the joint meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Mr. Frederic Delano, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, asked whether the Commission of Fine Arts had some suggestions to make regarding the Andrew Mellon Gallery. Mr. Moore stated in behalf of this Commission that so far the Commission has simply been informed that \$10,000,000 has been made available for the gallery by Mr. Mellon and that he has had a talk with Mr. David Finley, one of the trustees of the Mellon Gallery fund, who stated that Mr. Mellon expects to come to Washington in the near future and talk over the subject. Attention was called to the site heretofore mentioned for a Mellon Art Gallery along Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets. Mr. Moore thought the question of location should be thoroughly considered so that a site would be selected which would provide for both indoor and outdoor art exhibitions. It was also decided that this matter be held in abeyance for further consideration at the next joint meeting the latter part of January.

15. INSPECTION OF PUBLIC WORKS OF ART EXHIBITION, CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART:

The Commission inspected a large number of paintings placed on exhibition by the Painting and Sculpture Section of the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department in the Corcoran Gallery of Art. Mr. Rowan, Superintendent of that office, was present to explain the purpose of the paintings, namely, that those presented for inspection by the Commission of Fine Arts are intended for the Post Office and Justice Departments. The members of the Commission were not at all pleased with the character of the paintings presented.

Mr. Savage had informed the members of the Commission in the morning that he had seen the paintings. Mr. Swartwout asked Mr. Savage who is on the jury. Mr. Savage said that they are good easel painters and one mural painter, for which reason he would criticize the selection. Among the members of the jury were Eugene Speicher, Jonas Lie, Ernest Peixotto, B. La Farge and Leon Kroll.

It was brought out that the architects of the buildings were not consulted regarding mural decorations in all cases but that Borie and Zantzinger, architects of the Department of Justice building, had approved the sketches submitted by George Biddle. Mr. Moore said that those architects built what he thought a good building but put on modern doors, windows and ornaments so that the building is all out of keeping with the others. Mr. Moore said also that Mr. Blashfield was in Washington a few days ago and visited the exhibition and found one picture that is good. Likewise Mr. Fraser had seen the exhibition and thought as Mr. Blashfield did about it.

Later in the afternoon the Commission inspected some sketches in place in the Department of Justice building. The Commission asked Mr. Savage for a

report as to these paintings. Mr. Savage submitted his criticisms which were embodied in a report sent to Mr. Rowan. (Exhibit G; see also G-1)

16. SCULPTURE FOR THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING: Mr. Rowan submitted photographs of models of sculpture for the Postmaster General's office, concerning which the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts was desired. The models were on exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery of Art where the Commission saw them. In the absence of Mr. Lawrie the photographs were sent to him in New York City with the information that this exhibition at the Corcoran was being sent by Mr. Rowan to the Metropolitan Club, 122 East 66th Street, New York City, where Mr. Lawrie could see the models for criticism and report.

17. SCULPTURED PANELS FOR SOLICITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUILDING: At the request of Mr. Simon, the Commission inspected a plaster cast in the Solicitor General's office, Department of Justice building, by Anthony Di Lorenzo, sculptor. The Supervising Architect's Office sent a letter of explanation on November 22, as follows:

November 22, 1935.

The Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Reference is made to the Department of Justice Building, this city, and more particularly to the models of plaster casts for the Solicitor General's Conference room on the fifth floor.

Models numbers M3 M (1) to (12) inclusive made by Anthony Di Lorenzo, approved by 394b the architects, Zantzinger, Borie and Medary were submitted to your Commission for criticism and advice. Photographs of these models are forwarded herewith.

Your Commission subsequently disapproved these models.

The Architects attempted to treat the frieze in this room by substituting mural decoration or special decoration in lieu of the installation of the original casts of the models above referred to. After consulting the various mural painters, the Architects concluded that these panels could not be properly treated as murals. The Architects have advised this office on several occasions that they have been unsuccessful in their efforts to suitably treat the frieze of this room, and authority was given for the installation of one cast, and this has been painted to harmonize with the treatment of the room. The Architects have been most emphatic in their statement concerning the need for the installation of these casts not as sculptural pieces, but to be regarded in the light of a decorative motif or scheme, creating as they would an interest in light and shade.

The Architects have requested that this subject be again submitted to your Commission with the request that in the light of the statements above made that you review the cast now in place with the belief on their part that you might wish to modify your previous decision which it is believed was given on the assumption that the models represented important sculptural features.

It may be stated that this office regards the Architects' recommendation in this matter to be worthy of your Commission's further consideration.

Respectfully,
(Signed) G. W. Stone,
Acting Supervising Architect.

The Commission inspected the model and thought the sculptural panels would be preferable to mural paintings for the frieze. The model was approved with the suggestion that the line at the bottom of the cast be cut off. This will make it possible to lower the cast slightly and allow more space between the tops of the heads of the figures and the upper border of the cast. The cast in place seemed to show the heads of the figures pushed against the upper rim, due to the fact that the cast was seen from below. This condition was explained to Mr. Thorn of Mr. Simon's office, who was present during the inspection.

Similarly the Commission inspected photographs of the rest of the models proposed for the frieze and likewise approved them with the recommendation as to removing the bottom line as above mentioned. A report was sent to Mr.

Simon. (Exhibit H)

18. FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD BUILDING, LANDSCAPE PLAN: Under date of October 23, 1935, Mr. Chester Morrill, Secretary of the Federal Reserve Board, submitted a plan by Dr. Cret (SK-80 of October 9, 1935) for the treatment of the area south of the Federal Reserve Board Building between 20th and 21st Streets along Constitution Avenue. The Commission inspected the drawings in the presence of Dr. Cret and Mr. Morrill. It was noted from the design that the driveway heretofore suggested by Mr. Miller of the Federal Reserve Board had been eliminated and that Dr. Cret had retained the fountains at the east and west sides of the square and proposed a grass panel in the center. Mr. Clarke inspected the drawing and thought it satisfactory. Mr. Clarke asked Dr. Cret if he had selected a landscape architect to work out the details. Dr. Cret replied that he had not officially appointed a landscape architect for the work. Mr. Clarke advised that this should be done since it is important when it comes to the question of preparing a planting plan. After consideration the Commission approved the plan with the recommendation that Dr. Cret appoint a landscape architect and that the planting plan be submitted to the Commission. (Exhibit I)

19. SECOND DIVISION MEMORIAL: Mr. Moore brought to the attention of the Commission a letter from Mrs. Samuel A. Swiggett, Chairman, Fine Arts Department, District of Columbia Federation of Women's Clubs, dated October 17, 1935, protesting against the erection of the Second Division Memorial at the site selected along Constitution Avenue between 15th and 17th Streets:

October 17, 1935.

Dear Mr. Moore:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated October 12, 1935, in reply to my letter of October 7th, 1935, written by me as the Chairman of the Fine Arts Department of the District of Columbia

Federation of Women's Clubs, and signed by both our President, Mrs. Biddle, and myself.

Please be advised that my department is not in accord with your views nor with the action taken by the Commission on Fine Arts. I am making a formal request of the Commission on Fine Arts to give me the following information which I desire for the official purposes of the Fine Arts Department of the District of Columbia Federation of Women's Clubs.

In your letter above mentioned you state as follows: "This location has been discussed with committees of Congress for the past several years". Please advise me the names of the committees of the United States Congress which discussed this subject and also the dates upon which the discussion was held and the references as to whether these discussions or reports were made a matter of public record.

In your letter of October 12, you state, "This plan seemed good to Congress". Please give specific references as to what action Congress took on the matter. If it "seemed good to Congress" then the action of Congress should be a matter of public record. I am making a formal request of the Commission of Fine Arts to give me reference advices which will enable the District of Columbia Federation of Women's Clubs to secure the action which Congress took.

Information is requested as to whether the Commission of Fine Arts called for a public hearing on this subject and also it is requested that the Fine Arts Commission send me, for the official purposes of the District of Columbia Federation of Women's Clubs, reports of this public hearing.

In conclusion, please be advised that the Fine Arts Department of the District of Columbia Federation of Women's Clubs desires their protest to be officially registered until such time as we are satisfied that the action the Commission of Fine Arts has taken is in accordance with the desires of Congress and is in the public interest.

Your prompt consideration will be deeply appreciated.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Grace Kiess Swiggett.

Mrs. Samuel A. Swiggett, Chairman, Fine Arts Department,
District of Columbia Federation of
Women's Clubs.

(Address, 701 Nicholson Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.)

The Commission advised that Mrs. Swiggett be informed that the Commission of Fine Arts had carried out the legislation in accordance with Senate Report 1821, 71st Congress, 3rd Session, which suggested the location above mentioned. (Exhibit J)

20. SIXTEENTH STREET NICHE, MERIDIAN HILL PARK: On Saturday morning Mr. Moore, Mr. Howells, Mr. Peaslee, Mr. Finnan, Mr. Kirkpatrick and Mr. Caemmerer visited Meridian Hill Park. Mr. Peaslee desired the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts regarding the treatment to be given the 16th Street Niche on the axis of the grand terrace of the park. Mr. Peaslee said that in view of the fact that the Commission of Fine Arts had not approved the plan submitted for a rather elaborate fountain at the location the Park Service now proposes to block it up. Mr. Peaslee felt this would be unfortunate since it would be left in an unfinished state for many years. The niche is 20 feet high, 8 feet wide and about four feet deep and there is room for benches at each side of the niche adjacent to the sidewalk. The location had heretofore been considered for an entrance to the park but the Commission decided several years ago that an entrance at this point was unnecessary.

Mr. Howells studied the niche and felt some simple motif could be designed that would be appropriate for the location. Mr. Moore suggested a fountain with a falling spray of water such as seen in Italian gardens and submitted such a picture of a fountain in the Vatican gardens. Mr. Moore said he would also like to see the memorial called the Mary F. Henderson Memorial as she did so much to procure Meridian Hill Park for Washington.

It was decided that Mr. Peaslee should confer with Mr. Howells as to a design for a fountain that would be suitable for the location. Mr. Finnan said he felt as much as \$10,000 could be made available to complete the project.

21. ARMILLARY SPHERE, MERIDIAN HILL PARK: Under date of October 20, 1935, the following copy of a letter was received from Mr. Peaslee regarding the Armillary Sphere, designed by C. Paul Jennewein and given by Miss Bertha Noyes of Washington to the National Capital, which has been set in place by authority of Congress in the lower garden of Meridian Hill Park:

October 20, 1935.

My dear Mr. Finnan:

The Armillary Sphere has been erected in Meridian Hill Park. The bronze is slightly off center of pedestal and orders have been given to correct this error. However, the correction of this detail is being held in abeyance pending action on another point of criticism.

The final form of the design is as approved by the Fine Arts Commission after a number of submissions by the sculptor. The granite base is octagonal in form, intended to square with the axial lines of the lower garden. The base of the bronze is also octagonal, which requires a hard and fast relationship between bronze and stone. My drawings and specifications for the base were submitted to and approved by your office. I had no information about the detail of the bronze. Instructions were given me by the sculptor to proceed with arrangements for the foundations and base. The specifications call for the setting of the sphere under the direction of the astronomer, this setting to be done presumably after the base was in place.

At the last moment, before setting the stone, to make absolutely certain that there would be no misunderstanding, I wrote the sculptor, Mr. Jennewein, to make sure that the bronze was in two pieces so that it could be rotated . . . since the octagonal base could not vary from the stone. Otherwise, the astronomer could make no adjustments, once the stone were set. This seemed almost a superfluous inquiry but to my surprise, I was advised by wire that the bronze was a one piece casting. This necessitated setting the base itself by astronomical observation. Your office was advised of the situation and courteously furnished a survey party.

The base planes are off-parallel but not offensively so. The eccentricity can be camouflaged by the essential planting. Of course, it is an adjustment but the alternative means structural changes in the bronze which seem to me impractical. It is my suggestion that the question be referred to the Fine Arts Commission as any change involves questions of design. I am more concerned about the need of a fence or barrier. Without such protection, I am convinced that the sphere will suffer from vandals.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Horace W. Peaslee.

Mr. Moore and Mr. Howells inspected the sphere. Mr. Peaslee explained that the sphere points to Polaris but is not on axis with the park. He felt that the pedestal should be reset and the sphere properly placed. He thought that this could be accomplished by moving the sphere a quarter of an inch further east and further south and then recutting the top of the pedestal. Mr. Howells inspected the situation closely and thought that the error was so small that in the first place it would never be noticed by the average visitor in the park and secondly that if an attempt should be made to move the sphere and carve the top of the pedestal it might spoil the appearance of the sphere and perhaps ruin the pedestal.

Mr. Moore said Miss Noyes had paid \$200 to an astronomer for the purpose of giving the sphere an exact setting and that she thinks the work should be done exactly.

22. FOUNTAIN FOR GREAT ENTRANCE TO ARLINGTON: Mr. Nagle of the National Park Service requested information as to the status of the project to procure a fountain for the Great Entrance to Arlington. He was informed that Mr. Weinman had made a preliminary design and was making a model of it. He said that they have \$35,000 available if a six-foot hedge is procured for the memorial avenue to Arlington and \$24,000 if an eight-foot hedge is to be

bought. Mr. Clarke thought that the trees purchased for the Avenue are rather small and that it would not make much difference if a six-foot hedge is procured, as the hedge could be growing while the trees are growing. He also thought they would get better material in the six-foot hedge and the Commission agreed to procuring a six-foot hedge.

Accordingly the Secretary sent a telegram to Mr. Weinman asking him as to the status of the model for the fountain and for photographs of it. Mr. Weinman replied as follows:

November 22, 1935.

Sketch model for fountain figure now ready. Sorry cannot send photographs before next week. Will ask Mr. Kendall to see model if possible this week.

Mr. Kendall, Mr. Swartwout and Mr. Lawrie were asked to inspect the model. Mr. Weinman was also informed that \$35,000 was available for the fountain and was requested to state the amount needed. Whereupon Mr. Weinman telegraphed as follows:

November 23, 1935.

Present indications are that additional appropriation may be needed to execute the model and carving of statue and its architectural support. Am now looking further into matter of cost and shall again inform you. Shall ask Swartwout and Lawrie to come with Kendall.

(Mr. Swartwout and Mr. Kendall inspected the model on Friday, November 29, and Mr. Lawrie on Saturday, November 30.)

The Commission adjourned at 4:30 p. m. The Commission had as their guests at luncheon Mrs. Fraser, Dr. Cret, Mr. Chester Morrill, and Mr. David Finley.

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

Dear Mr. Justement:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on November 22, 1935, considered the plans for a group of residence buildings to face Sixteenth Street at the District of Columbia boundary line, adjacent to Colesville Pike. The Commission considered the arrangement of buildings and landscape most agreeable.

The Commission also liked the architectural treatment of the buildings, and the members appreciated the excellence of the presentation of the plans. They made suggestions of modification of the form of two doorways, with which you were in sympathy.

Your attention was called to the fact that the new group will face what will become the monumental entrance to the District of Columbia--named by Congress the Montgomery Blair Portal. President Roosevelt has recently expressed to this Commission his desire for an early and adequate treatment of this entrance to the District. You said that you understood that the land on the westerly side of Sixteenth Street was owned by people connected with your clients and that probably they would make a harmonious development also of that frontage. This Commission desire merely to suggest the importance of these two sites in relation to future development.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Louis Justement,
744 Jackson Place, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT A

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The Commission of Fine Arts at the meeting on November 22, 1935, were pleased to inspect the model submitted by you for the Federal housing project at Benning Road and 24th Street, N. E. The Commission took note of the fact that these apartment buildings will be adjacent to the Anacostia Park and they are also near certain school buildings, colonial in design.

The Commission approve the general arrangement of the buildings in the group and especially the amount of open space connected with them. The Commission do not approve the architectural treatment. A restudy should be made to bring the buildings into harmony with the architecture of the nearby school buildings. The contrast between the designs submitted and the school buildings would be highly detrimental to the housing project. This is not a question of cost, but of good order and good taste. A study of the modified colonial architecture as used in Washington municipal buildings for various purposes will illustrate what the Commission have in mind.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. Ernest B. Johnson,
Federal Housing Division,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B

C O P Y

November 27, 1935.

Dear Mr. Simon:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on November 22, 1935, consideration was given to the revised design submitted by your office for an extension to the Home Owners Loan Corporation building. The Commission was especially concerned with the matter of the present pent-house--perhaps the ugliest and most obtrusive in the entire city. Can you give assurance in this matter?

If so, the Commission of Fine Arts will approve the revised design.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Louis A. Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

C O P Y

December 9, 1935.

Dear Mr. Simon:

The Commission of Fine Arts approve the design which you submitted with your letter of December 4, 1935, for the extension to the Home Owners Loan Corporation building.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. Louis Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C-1

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

PROCUREMENT DIVISION

LEGAL SECTION

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

L-ERW

October 22, 1935.

RECEIVED
THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS.
WASHINGTON D. C.
OCT 23 1935
NOTED

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Room 1083, Navy Department Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In response to your recent telephone inquiry, please be advised that the Comptroller General finally approved the transfer warrant for the additional amount of \$105,385 allotted by the Administrator of Public Works to complete the acquisition of Reservation D, this city.

The transfer was approved by the Comptroller General on October 11, 1935, and the Procurement Division is now proceeding with the necessary appraisals and securing proposals for the acquisition of those properties which can be secured by contracts of purchase. Shortly, a proceeding in condemnation will be instituted for the acquisition of those properties which cannot be purchased.

Please be advised that the Procurement Division will expedite the matter as much as possible.

Respectfully,

Edw. R. Witman,
Assistant Chief, Legal Section.

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

Dear Mr. White:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on November 22, 1935, approved the design which you submitted for a series of store buildings at Calvert Street and Connecticut Avenue. The design indicates that there will be no show window projection and this is in accordance with the regulation of the Commission of Fine Arts.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Jarrett C. White,
Stoneleigh Court,
Washington, D. C.

The Commission call your attention to the fact that unless the architect designs the signs placed on his building all his labors to produce a good looking structure will come to nothing or worse.

EXHIBIT E

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

Dear Mr. Le Brun:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on November 22, 1935, considered with Representative Celler, you and the other representatives of the Grover Cleveland Memorial Committee the project to erect a memorial to Grover Cleveland in Washington in accordance with the Act of Congress approved June 26, 1935.

As a result of the discussion, the Commission of Fine Arts understand that you propose to hold a competition under the general rules of competitions adopted by the American Institute of Architects and the National Sculpture Society as a means of securing the best results in selecting artists to design and execute works monumental in character. You also asked the advice of this Commission as to location. All these preliminaries are in accordance with the act creating the Commission of Fine Arts.

The cost of the memorial you tentatively placed at \$250,000. On this basis you asked the Commission to give advice as to the selection of an architectural adviser to prepare the program of competition and as to the choice of a jury to make the award.

These matters are left to be settled at a future conference with your committee.

Will you please inform this Commission if the foregoing is also your understanding of the results reached at our meeting?

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. George P. Le Brun, Secretary,
The Grover Cleveland Memorial Committee, Inc.,
15 Gramercy Park,
New York, N. Y.

EXHIBIT F

C O P Y

New York, November 25, 1935.

Dr. Charles Moore,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Navy Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Moore:

I desire to express my keen appreciation of your most hospitable reception of Commissioner Payne, Mr. LeBrun and myself this Friday past. You and your colleagues were most helpful.

Concerning the matter of a professional adviser to our Committee, may I be privileged to suggest the name of a very prominent firm of engineers in New York - Messrs. Parsons, Klapp, Brinckerhoff & Douglas. I do believe this firm is well known to you. The late Mr. Parsons, formerly of that firm, built the first New York subway. Walter J. Douglas, one of the members, was, for many years, engineer of bridges of the District of Columbia. This firm has acted as technical consultants to the government in the designing and construction of the Arlington Bridge, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and, for many years, have been engaged as consulting engineers to the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army. I explained to them that the compensation in this instance would, of necessity, be more or less nominal.

I have no interest in any of the gentlemen connected with this firm but I do know of their excellent reputation. I have not conferred with either Commissioner Payne or Mr. LeBrun concerning this matter but I am sending each of them a copy of this communication. Please accept this letter merely in the nature of a suggestion.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) E. Celler.

EXHIBIT F-1

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

Dear Representative Celler:

I am sending you a copy of the letter written to Mr. Le Brun.

He has telegraphed the Commission as follows:

On returning home and reporting to my associates on the committee the action taken in Washington at our meeting of November 22nd with respect to the Grover Cleveland Memorial I must ask you to suspend any action of yours respecting that meeting until the executive committee of the Grover Cleveland Memorial fund has an opportunity to meet and consider my report.

In regard to your suggestion as to architectural advisers: the firm of engineers you mention is of the highest standing. I knew Mr. Parsons and know Mr. Brinkerhoff and Mr. Douglas for both of whom I have high regard. But this is an architectural and sculptural problem, and in no sense an engineering problem. So it will have to be dealt with by architects and sculptors, as is customary.

I have one or two sites to talk to you about.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. E. Celler,
60 Wall Street,
New York, N. Y.

EXHIBIT F-2

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

Dear Mr. Rowan:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on November 22, considered with you the sketches submitted by various painters for mural decorations to be placed on the walls of the Post Office Department Building and the building of the Department of Justice.

The Commission give their advice as follows:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

Opening of the Railroads; Opening of the Southwest, Ward Lockwood:

Opening of the Southwest. This study is orderly and eventful with good linear elements and relationships. The drawing is very loosely suggested; it should be carried much further at full size. Approved.

Opening of the Railroads. There is lack of any composite coordination in mass, line or pattern. A restudy of the motifs would bring the sketch up to its companion composition. A revised sketch should be submitted. Sketch disapproved.

Arrival of the Mail in New Amsterdam; Spanish Explorers and Indians, Karl Free:

Arrival of Mail in New Amsterdam. Two criticisms should receive attention: the drawing here, while intentionally of a loose and easy style may become flabby and weak at full size. The middle distance (men on dock) might be used to back up more solidly the Peter Stuyvesant and horse group. Otherwise approved.

Spanish Explorers and Indians. This composition fails through the center; the order in special design has not been established. Another try should be made to bring it up to its companion piece. Disapproved.

Franklin and Philadelphia Post Office; Carrying of Dispatches, George Harding.

Both approved.

Dangers of the Mail; Pony Express, Frank Mechau:

The Dangers of the Mail panel suffers severely toward the center of the picture because the hard low lines of the hills absorb the outlines of figures and horses over and around the fallen coach.

A restudy should be made with horizon line augmenting the action and interest below.

Border should be very much more solidly patterned and in darker values even if repeats are used to accomplish it.

Pony Express. The elements in this sketch very inadequately fill the space. Both the horse and the figure compositions in predella below are far more in keeping in this respect.

The small panels below are acceptable but upper larger sketch is disapproved.

Post Office Work Room; Transportation of Mail, Alfred Crimi:

The work room sketch suffers fatally in linear interest. The horizontal and perpendicular shapes are meaningless and dry, drowning any movement or figure relationship that might have received attention. This study cannot be approved as it stands, though the painter has acquired his background material carefully.

A radical restudy of the composition should be made.

Transportation of Mail should be carried further in a more completed study.

Stage Coach Attacked by Bandits; Covered Wagons Attacked by Indians, William Palmer:

The treatment of these subjects is well conceived, rhythmic, flowing and dramatic.

To retain these qualities while realizing sketch convincingly at full scale will require care.

Sketches approved.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Law Makers of History, Boardman Robinson:

It is suggested in regard to these sketches that the scale of figure is too large; they diminish the room and weaken the compositions. It is suggested that the artist try a somewhat smaller scale in place as the architectural detail is rather fine and slender and the details in the figure painting must not be too crude. With the exception of this question raised, sketches approved.

Bureau of Prisons; Division of Pardons; Lands; Customs, Henry Varnum Poor:

The scale of figures in the Lands and Customs studies is much more nearly adjusted to the surroundings than the figures in the Bureau of Prisons and Division of Pardons panels, where the figures dwarf their surroundings.

No color adjustment to adjacent stone and metal leaf had been attempted, this should be done. The black and ochre color in the cartoons is more of an answer to association with wood than with the material that obtains in the building.

These sketches have not been carried far enough. There are infelicities in line and detail adjustment that would be most unfortunate at full size.

Further studies of these compositions should be made.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. Ed Rowan, Superintendent,
Section of Painting and Sculpture,
Procurement Division,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

Dear Mr. Rowan:

With reference to your letter of November 22, I have to inform you that the Commission of Fine Arts at the meeting on November 22, 1935, inspected the revised sketches for mural paintings in the Department of Justice building, by Mr. George Biddle. The Commission regret that none of the points raised in its first review of the panels of Mr. Biddle have received attention. The outline cartoons in place show those criticisms to be warranted.

In addition it should be said that the house gable as a large central motif is unfortunate. The atmosphere of the central panel, contrary to the intention of the subject, is depressing. The scale of figures is too large. For these reasons the work is disapproved.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Edward B. Rowan, Superintendent,
Section of Painting and Sculpture,
Procurement Division,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G



TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

December 6, 1935

PROCUREMENT DIVISION
PUBLIC WORKS BRANCH

FLYING QUOTE THE ABOVE SUB-
BUILDING, AND THESE LETTERS PW- SA*P&S

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
New Navy Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

The Director of Procurement has the two letters of the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, dated November 26, addressed to the Superintendent of the Section of Painting and Sculpture, Procurement Division, Treasury Department. They contain the comment and advice of the Commission on the small scale color sketches designed by Mr. Alfred Crimi, Mr. Karl Free, Mr. Ward Lockwood, and Mr. Frank Mechau, and entered in the competition for the elevator lobbies of the Post Office Department building; they also contain the Commission's comment and advice on the full sized cartoons and detailed drawings by Mr. George Biddle for the fifth floor elevator lobby of the Department of Justice building in Washington.

The Director of Procurement desires to express his appreciation for the suggestions which your Commission has made, for he values highly the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts in matters pertaining to architecture, painting and sculpture. The Commission is respected as an authority on these subjects, and its advice has, in many cases, been followed.

In the opinion of the Director of Procurement the Commission has rendered genuine service in being largely responsible for preserving the integrity of, and the original plan for, the development of the District of Columbia, and the appropriateness of the public buildings constructed and contemplated in connection therewith. Its cooperation is highly appreciated.

The Director of Procurement wishes to invite attention to the fact that these five artists were among those selected upon the recommendations of the Advisory Committee of nineteen nationally-known authorities on art, including that of the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, and the Section of Painting and Sculpture. The other

December 6, 1935

members of the Committee were:

John S. Ankeney, formerly Director of the Dallas Museum of Art
C. L. Borie, Jr., architect, Department of Justice building
F. A. Delano, chairman, National Planning Board
William A. Delano, architect, Post Office Department building
Robert Harshe, Director, Chicago Institute of Art, Chicago
Walter S. Heil, Director, M. H. de Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco, Calif.

Anna Hyatt Huntington, sculptor

Bancel La Farge, painter

Henry Allen Moe, secretary, Guggenheim Memorial Foundation,
New York City

William Milliken, Director, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland

C. Powell Minnegerode, Director, Corcoran Gallery of Art

Ernest Peixotto, former President, Society of Mural Painters

Duncan Phillips, founder of Phillips Memorial Gallery, Washington

Henry Schnakenberg, painter

Eugene Speicher, painter

Justice Harlan F. Stone, Justice, U. S. Supreme Court

Francis Taylor, director, Worcester Museum of Art, Worcester, Mass.

Henry Wehle, Acting Curator of Painting, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Mr. Biddle's appointment had the endorsement of a convincing number of votes of the committee which selected him. His work also has the unqualified endorsement of Messrs. Zantzinger and Borie, architects of the Department of Justice building, as well as that of the Attorney General, and of Justice Harlan F. Stone, who has kindly consented to act as an advisor on legal subject matter.

The Director of Procurement also wishes to invite attention to the fact that the sketches of Mr. Alfred Crimi, Mr. Karl Free, Mr. Ward Lockwood, and Mr. Frank Mechau were selected by a Jury of six nationally-known painters, comprising Mr. Leon Kroll, Mr. Bancel La Farge, Mr. Jonas Lie, Mr. Ernest Peixotto, Mr. Henry Schnakenberg, and Mr. Eugene Speicher. This Jury is unanimous in its opinion that the sketches submitted by these four painters are suitable as works of art and appropriate as decorations for the four elevator lobbies for which they were intended.

It is the understanding of the Director of Procurement that the adverse opinion of the Commission is a criticism of the whole scheme and point of view of some of the artists' designs. The Section of Painting and Sculpture and the Advisory Committee of painters differ with the opinion of the Commission of Fine Arts concerning some of these criticisms.

Where there is a difference of opinion on works of art, as there seems to be in the case of some of these sketches, the Director of Procurement feels that the advice of the Advisory Committee to the Section of Painting and Sculpture

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman
Commission of Fine Arts
Washington

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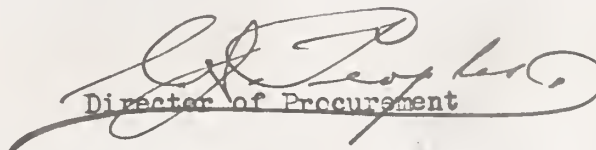
December 6, 1935

ture entitles this work to the most careful consideration.

Such consideration has been given and the Director of Procurement has requested the Superintendent of the Section of Painting and Sculpture to call all the comments of the Commission of Fine Arts to the attention of the artists, with a view to modifying the designs where feasible.

In view, however, of the method of selection of these artists and the differences of opinion concerning their sketches between the Commission of Fine Arts and other art authorities, including the architects, the Director of Procurement is constrained to believe that these artists should be authorized to proceed, and such action will be taken accordingly but with all due respect for the opinion of the Commission.

Very truly yours,


Director of Procurement

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

Dear Mr. Simon:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on November 22, 1935, inspected the plaster cast in the Solicitor General's office in the Department of Justice building, by Anthony Di Lorenzo. The Commission felt that it would be more appropriate to treat the frieze in this room with the series of plaster casts proposed rather than with mural decorations. The Commission approved the model with the recommendation that the line at the bottom of the cast be cut off. This will make it possible to lower the cast slightly and allow more space between the tops of the heads of the figures and the upper border of the cast. The cast in place seems to show the heads of the figures pushed against the upper rim, due to the fact that the cast is seen from below. This condition was explained to Mr. Thorn of your office, who was present during the inspection.

The Commission also inspected the photographs submitted of the remainder of the plaster casts to compose the frieze and similarly recommend that the bottom rim of the casts be cut off. It is further recommended that Mr. Jennewein be asked to supervise the installation of the panels.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Mr. Louis A. Simon,
Supervising Architect,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

EXHIBIT H

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

Dear Mr. Morrill:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on November 22, 1935, considered the landscape plan (designated SK-80, dated October 9, 1935), marked plot plan Scheme D, which was presented by Dr. Paul Cret, architect, and a copy of which you submitted with your letter of October 23, 1935. The Commission took note of the fact that the design eliminates the driveway on the Constitution Avenue side of your proposed building. The Commission approve the plan with the understanding that a planting plan will be submitted later.

For the preparation of the planting plan the Commission of Fine Arts strongly advise the appointment of a landscape architect to be recommended by the architect in order to secure close cooperation in the development of the grounds. Dr. Cret is so masterful as a designer of landscape settings for monumental buildings that he should have thorough support.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Chester Morrill, Secretary,
Federal Reserve Board,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT I

C O P Y

November 26, 1935.

My dear Mrs. Swiggett:

Your communication of October 17, was considered by the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting of November 22.

The location and design of the Second Division Memorial was considered by the Congressional Joint Committee on the Library, with the results stated in Senate Report 1821, 71st Congress, 3d Session, on the basis of which report the authorized legislation was enacted. The Commission of Fine Arts have carried out the legislation in accordance with the terms of that report.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mrs. Samuel A. Swiggett, Chairman,
Fine Arts Department,
District of Columbia Federation of Women's Clubs,
701 Nicholson Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J

